

**Amherst Budget Coordinating Group
Summary Points – March 17, 2011**

At our March 17th meeting, the members of the Budget Coordinating Group agreed that the following points would be conveyed to our home boards and committees:

- 1) That the best estimate for State revenue in excess of original worst-case-scenario projections is now about \$690,000, down from the \$1 million figure discussed at the 3/3 meeting. The difference is due to updated forecasting and correcting a reconciliation error. This projection will continue to change until the state budget determines the amount of state aid that will be provided in FY 12.
- 2) That to assist the Town, School and Library budget makers in planning their spending, the group discussed a working distribution of that \$690,000 as follows:

Elementary Schools	\$300,000	(full request: \$464,000)
Town	\$200,000	(full request: \$393,000)
Library	\$40,000	(MAR-level request: \$8,000 amount below current services: \$95,945)
Capital	\$150,000	(preliminary request: \$250,000. JCPC will develop a prioritized list of projects in addition to the \$250,000.)

This distribution makes no allowance for the Regional Schools (the Superintendent's initial \$150,000 request was predicated on its viability for the other towns in the Region,) putting money toward reserves or maintaining any untaxed levy capacity.

- 3) That to address the potential for State revenue to exceed \$690,000, each budget area is asked to prioritize its additional spending needs beyond the working distribution above. At the March 31st BCG meeting, we will discuss a recommendation for ranking the order of those priorities across budget areas.